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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PRESIDENT FORD, CIA DIRECTOR CASEY, TO CO-CHAIR AWARD DINNER FOR MC CONE IN SAN FRANCISCO

NEW YORK, March 22 ---- Former President Gerald R. Ford and William J. Casey, director of the Central Intelligence Agency have agreed to serve as co-chairmen at a dinner honoring John A. McCone, who will receive the William J. Donovan medal.

The medal, awarded by the Veterans of the Office of Strategic Services, was established as a memorial to the founder and director of the OSS, Major General William J. "Wild Bill" Donovan. The award is presented to individuals who have rendered singular and distinguished service in the interests of the United States. The 1981 winner was Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher of Great Britain.

Other distinguished holders of the award include Mr. Casey, The Apollo II Astronauts, General of the Army Dwight D. Eisenhower, the Earl Mountbatten of Burma, John J. McCloy, David K.E. Bruce, Senator Everett Dirksen and Allen Dulles.

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The presentation to Mr. McCone will be in the St. Francis Hotel in San Francisco on Saturday, May 22, 1982.

<sup>e</sup> Mr. McCone has served as Chairman of the Atomic Energy
Commission, Special Deputy to James Forrestal, Secretary of Defense
under President Truman and as Director of the Central Intelligance Agency
under President Kennedy.